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### Appendix A - Claims

1. A unit which comprises a card read/write device, characterized in that the unit is formed by a mouse pad which is adapted to be coupled to a computer so that the coupling creates a link between the computer and the card read/write device, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.
2. A unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the card read/write device is formed by a SmartCard unit.
3. A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a card read/write device integrated with said mouse pad, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.
4. The mouse pad unit according to claim 3, wherein said card read/write device comprises a device for reading/writing smart cards.
5. The mouse pad unit according to claim 3, wherein said card read/write device comprises a device for reading/writing cards containing integrated circuits.
6. The mouse pad unit according to claim 3, wherein said card read/write device comprises a device for reading/writing cards containing stored data.
7. The mouse pad unit according to claim 6, wherein said data is magnetically stored.
8. A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a card read device integrated with said mouse pad, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.
9. The mouse pad unit according to claim 8, wherein said card read device comprises a

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device for reading smart cards.

10. The mouse pad unit according to claim 9, wherein said card read device comprises a device for reading cards containing integrated circuits.
11. The mouse pad unit according to claim 8, wherein said card read device comprises a device for reading cards containing stored data.
12. The mouse pad unit according to claim 11, wherein said data is magnetically stored.
13. A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a data storage read/write device integrated with said mouse pad, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.
14. The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a CD-ROM read/write device.
15. The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a disk drive read/write device.
16. The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a removable hard drive read/write device.
17. The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a DVD read/write device.
18. A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a data storage read device integrated with said mouse pad, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.
19. The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device

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comprises a CD-ROM read device.

20. The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device comprises a disk drive read device.
21. The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device comprises a removable hard drive read device.
22. The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device comprises a DVD read device.
23. A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a peripheral device integrated with said mouse pad, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.
24. The unit according to claim 3, 8, 13, 18, or 23, additionally comprising means for communicating data between said unit and a computing device.
25. The unit according to claim 24, additionally comprising text placed on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.
26. The unit according to claim 24, additionally comprising a graphical image placed on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.
27. The unit according to claim 24, wherein said means for communicating data comprises a cable.
28. The unit according to claim 24, wherein said means for communicating data comprises a wireless communication device.
29. The unit according to claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 18, or 23, additionally comprising text placed

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on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.

30. The unit according to claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 18, or 23, additionally comprising a graphical image placed on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.
31. A method for uploading data to a computer, comprising providing a mouse pad unit with a data storage read device integrated with a mouse pad, and inserting a data storage media into said mouse pad unit, and uploading data from said media onto a computer coupled to said mouse pad unit, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.
32. An advertising system, comprising a mouse pad having at least one exterior surface, a data storage device integrated with said mouse pad, and advertising placed on said exterior surface, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.

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